

Face of Defense: Woman Becomes Air Force's Chief Scientist

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JUNE 6, 2013)

Senior Airman Carlin Leslie

WASHINGTON—The Air Force has appointed the Service's first female chief scientist to lead the way in the technology and science fields.

Dr. Mica Endsley assumed her new duties and responsibilities as the Air Force's 34th chief scientist June 3 in support of Air Force senior leaders and airmen across the Service.

"Having served on the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board for many years, I've had the pleasure of working closely with the current and several former Air Force chief scientists," Endsley said. "I know this is a tremendous opportunity to help the Air Force excel in its goal of maintaining the critical technological edge that gives our airmen a strategic advantage."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III emphasized the important role Endsley will play in continuing the Air Force's legacy of innovation.

"I'm pleased to have Dr. Endsley as a part of the Air Force team," Welsh said. "She follows in the footsteps of many superb minds that have advanced our technological edge and provided much-needed capabilities to our airmen. Although she arrives at a very challenging time, I'm confident she'll continue a proud legacy of chief scientists who use innovation and strong leadership to keep our Air Force the world's finest."

Successfully maintaining that technological edge Welsh mentioned is a key job, Endsley said, and she plans to use every available resource to effectively and cost efficiently get the job done in support of airmen.

"This involves working with the top scientists and engineers within the Air Force as well as in academia, industry, and the other armed services," she said, noting this will "ensure that the Air Force's research and development efforts are being directed at the right problems."

Endsley said she plans to ensure the Air Force continues to develop technologies and systems that will truly support airmen and their missions.

"I know that in many cases, we can dramatically improve our mission effectiveness by using the science of human performance to design technology," she said.

This, she added, will "better support the way people work."



The Air Force appointed Dr. Mica Endsley as its first woman chief scientist to lead the way in the technology and science fields.
U.S. Air Force photo

As Endsley takes the helm of an office that has made large strides over recent years, she's motivated to push the envelope even further.

"My goal will be to continue with these efforts, making sure that we are implementing their recommendations and achieving the needed milestones in our science and technology portfolio," she said. "To stay competitive in the future, we need to make sure that Air Force systems keep up with this rapid pace of change, particularly in computers, cyber, and all across the information spectrum."

Endsley feels that along with the growth of the organization, she has a duty as the first female chief scientist to reach out to the younger generation, speaking on the advantages of a career in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

"I want to share with the young women I speak to, the many advantages of a science, technology, engineering, and math career," she said, and that it will "make many more interested if they knew how very creative and team-oriented engineering work is and how satisfying it is to be able to solve real problems that affect people's lives."

Endsley said she is excited to begin looking across the Air Force, ensuring the needs of airmen are understood and met.

At that point she can help bring technology to bear in the right ways to solve the problems they face.

"I deeply respect the challenges and sacrifices that all of our airmen, at every level, make daily in service to our nation," she said. "To be asked to join them and do what I can to support them was simply an opportunity I could not pass up."

Flag Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 6, 2013)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignments:

- Capt. Babette Bolivar, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as commander, Navy Region Northwest, Silverdale, Wash. Bolivar is currently serving as chief of staff, Naval Installations Command, Washington, D.C.
- Capt. Christopher J. Murray, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as assistant chief of staff, operations, J3, Joint Forces Command, Naples, Italy. Murray is currently serving as special assistant, Air Warfare Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense, director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Washington, D.C.
- Capt. Louis V. Cariello, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as deputy commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command/deputy commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command Pacific, Norfolk, Va. Cariello previously served as commanding officer, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia, Naples, Italy.
- Capt. Thomas J. Kearney, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as vice commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, D.C. Kearney is currently serving as special projects, Program Executive Office (Submarines)/deputy commander, Undersea Warfare (NAVSEA 07), Washington, D.C.

General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 7, 2013)

The Chief of staff, Air Force announced today the following assignments:

- Brig. Gen. Lee K. Levy II, who has been selected for the rank of major general, director, logistics, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to vice director, logistics, J-4, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Brig. Gen. Warren D. Berry, director, logistics, installations and mission support, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, to director, logistics, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

- Brig. Gen. Casey D. Blake, deputy director, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Dallas, Texas, to commander, Air Force Installation Contracting Agency, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.
- Brig. Gen. Gregory S. Otey, director, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan Liaison to the U.S. Embassy, Kabul, Afghanistan, to director, nuclear support, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va.
- Col. Brian S. Robinson, who has been selected for the rank of brigadier general, commander, 19th Airlift Wing, Air Mobility Command, Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., to vice commander, 618th Air and Space Operations Center (Tanker Airlift Control Center), Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

General Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 10, 2013)

The chief of staff, Army announced the following officer assignment: Brig. Gen. Duane A. Gamble, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island, Ill., to deputy commanding general, 1st Theater Sustainment Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., and Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan.

Senior Executive Service Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 11, 2013)

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced the following Department of Defense Senior Executive Service appointment: Elana Broitman has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as principal deputy, industrial base policy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C. Broitman previously served as senior advisor, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

AFMC Executive Director to Retire After 35 Years of Service

AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JUNE 18, 2013)

Monica D. Morales

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—After a 35-year career that began as a flight test engineer at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Dr. Steve Butler will retire from his post as Air Force Materiel Command's executive director June 28 and return once more to Fort Walton Beach.

"I will enjoy spending time with my family in Florida," Butler said. "In the future, I hope to teach; lead local science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities; and even provide some form of technical consulting."

Butler became the command's most senior civilian leader in September 2008. As the AFMC executive director, he provides counsel on a variety of topics ranging from acquisition to science and engineering, and deals with union issues.

After Butler's first assignment at the 3246th Test Wing at Eglin, he continued to subsequent assignments that ranged from developing precision guided weapons to senior advisory roles in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

He served as the deputy program director for the F-22 and the technical director for most of the Air Force's munitions inventory, including the Joint Direct Attack Munition. Butler also served in the Air Force Research Laboratory and the 46th Test Wing, where he was known for his hands-on expertise in electro-optical and radar-guided weapons.

His most recent honor includes the 2011 Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award, an award specifically for Senior Executive Service members who achieve extraordinary results.

"When I got word that I earned this award, I was just surprised and amazed by this recognition," he said.

"It's been such an honor to serve in AFMC and work to support the warfighter," Butler said. "The Air Force is a great place to work. The list of positive attributes is long—a skilled workforce, opportunities for varied assignments, work autonomy, and the satisfaction that comes with service to a higher calling. The Air Force, and AFMC in particular, places strong emphasis on professionalism and developing its people—and those traits have been evident to me each and every day."

Flag Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 21, 2013)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignments:

- Rear Adm. (lower half) David M. Duryea Jr. will be assigned as commander, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Washington, D.C. Duryea is currently serving as deputy commander for undersea warfare, SEA-07, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, D.C.
- Rear Adm. (lower half) Cindy L. Jaynes will be assigned as program executive officer, air anti-submarine warfare, Assault and Special Mission Programs, Patuxent River, Md. Jaynes is currently serving as commander, fleet readiness centers/assistant commander for logistics and industrial operations (AIR-6.0), Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md.

AFMC Priorities, Budget Effects Top Executive Director's Goals

Monica D. Morales

AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JUNE 25, 2013)

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—Michael Gill begins his tenure as Air Force Materiel Command's new executive director June 28 with the long-term objective of providing the right mix of support and leadership to benefit the command and the Air Force.

"I am truly honored to have this opportunity," Gill said. "I look forward to the successes and challenges we will have taking the command—and the Air Force—to that next level of excellence this country expects and deserves."

As the command's executive director, Gill advises the AFMC commander in managing all aspects of the command's mission to deliver war-winning capabilities, aircraft, and weapon systems to America's warfighters. He also advises the AFMC commander on labor union relations and development of the civilian workforce.

The top goal, said Gill, is supporting AFMC Commander Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger and, by extension, the priorities of the command. Hand-in-hand with this focus area is tackling the effects felt by a constrained fiscal environment marked by sequestration and workforce furloughs.

"Helping to ensure we continue to provide vital support to our customers and warfighters will be at the forefront of all our efforts," Gill said. "The other part of that challenge will be taking care of our people as we move forward. Sequestration and furloughs will create a great deal of stress on our workforce, and it will be important for us to help them weather the storm by being good wingmen."

Throughout his career and life, Gill said he has applied the Air Force's core values as a guide to conducting all aspects of business.

"I have learned that if you keep these core values in mind—integrity, service, excellence—they become a true guide both in your professional and personal life," he said.

Gill entered government service with the Air Force in 1982 under the mid-level management development program at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., where he served as a contracting officer and contracts manager supporting multiple aircraft and weapon systems.

His succeeding assignments have included varying positions throughout the Air Force. Gill served as the program

AT&L Workforce—Key Leadership Changes

manager for the Air Force Contracting and Manufacturing Civilian Career Program, Randolph AFB, Texas; as the director of the TRICARE Regional Office South, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, San Antonio, Texas; as the director of Contracting, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and, as the executive director of the Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill AFB, Utah.

Prior to his current assignment, he was executive director of the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at Wright-Patterson. Gill entered the Senior Executive Service in 2001.

This combination of professional experiences, Gill said, has prepared him for the challenges that await in his new assignment as executive director.

"I have had some great experiences in my career," he said. "Each of them has provided me with lessons and growth opportunities—both personally and professionally."

Flag Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 28, 2013)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignment: Navy Capt. Christian D. Becker, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as program executive officer for command, control, communications and intelligence, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, San Diego, Calif. Becker is currently serving as deputy program executive officer, Enterprise Information Systems, Washington, D.C.

General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 28, 2013)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Army Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols, commanding general, Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to deputy commanding general for support/chief of staff, Installation Management Command, San Antonio, Texas.
- Army Brig. Gen. Theodore C. Harrison, commanding general, U.S. Army Expeditionary Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to commanding General, Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Flag Officer Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JUNE 28, 2013)

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced today that the President has made the following nominations:

- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) David F. Baucom has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral.



AFMC Executive Director Michael Gill
U.S. Air Force photo

Baucom is currently serving as commander, Joint Theater Support Contracting Command, U.S. Central Command, Kabul, Afghanistan.

- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Peter J. Fanta has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Fanta is currently serving as deputy director for resources and acquisition, J8, Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) David J. Gale has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Gale is currently serving as commander, Regional Maintenance Center, Norfolk, Va.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Vincent L. Griffith has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Griffith is currently serving as deputy chief of staff for fleet ordnance and supply, and fleet supply officer, N41, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, Va.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) David H. Lewis has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Lewis is currently serving as program executive officer for ships, Washington, D.C.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Thomas J. Moore has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Moore is currently serving as program executive officer for aircraft carriers, Washington, D.C.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Jeffrey R. Penfield has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Penfield is currently serving as commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force, Norfolk, Va.

General Officer Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 2, 2013)

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced today that the President has made the following nominations:

- Army Col. Christopher F. Bentley has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Bentley is currently serving as commandant, U.S. Army Field Artillery School, U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence, Fort Sill, Okla.
- Army Col. William E. Cole has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Cole is currently serving as director, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. Jeffrey A. Farnsworth has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Farnsworth most recently served as chief, space capabilities integration, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. Jeffrey A. Gabbert has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Gabbert is currently serving as chief of staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. Douglas M. Gabram has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Gabram most recently served as deputy commander, U.S. Army Aviation Center, Fort Rucker, Ala.
- Army Col. John F. Haley has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Haley is currently serving as commandant, U.S. Army Ordnance School, U.S. Army Sustainment Center of Excellence, Fort Lee, Va.
- Army Col. Robert L. Marion has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Marion is currently serving as assistant deputy for acquisition and systems management, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. David W. Riggins has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Riggins is currently serving as director, acquisition and integration division, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller), Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. Kurt J. Ryan has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Ryan is currently serving as military assistant to the assistant secretary of defense (logistics and materiel readiness), Washington, D.C.
- Army Col. Scott A. Spellmon has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Spellmon is currently serving as commander, U.S. Army Operational Test Command, Fort Hood, Texas.

- Army Col. John P. Sullivan has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Sullivan is currently serving as chief of transportation and commandant, U.S. Army Transportation School, Fort Lee, Va.

Army Announces Army Contracting Command Senior Leadership Changes

U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER (JULY 3, 2013)

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.—Two of U.S. Army Contracting Command (ACC)'s senior leaders have been selected for reassignment, the Army announced June 28.

Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols, ACC commanding general (CG), has been selected for assignment as deputy CG for support and chief of staff, Installation Management Command (IMCOM), San Antonio, Texas.

Brig. Gen. Theodore "Ted" C. Harrison, CG, U.S. Army Expeditionary Contracting Command (ECC) has been selected to succeed Nichols as the ACC CG. The change of command date has not been set. ACC and ECC are both headquartered on Redstone Arsenal.

"It has been an honor to serve in the ACC," Nichols said. "The soldiers and civilians are inspirational in their total commitment in support of our Army. I thank them all for their unconditional support and know they will give Brig. Gen. Harrison the same. There is no better choice to replace me than Ted!"

"I have been blessed in my career to be able to serve our soldiers and their families and look forward to joining the great IMCOM team so I can continue to serve our Army and this great nation," she said.

Nichols became ACC's first CG on May 17, 2012. She previously served as program executive officer, PEO Soldier, at Fort Belvoir, Va. She enlisted in the Army in 1975 in her home town of Niagara Falls, N.Y. She was commissioned as an engineer officer upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1981.

Harrison assumed command of ECC in April, 2012.

"I am deeply honored to have been considered for this critical position," Harrison said. "I'm very humbled and excited by the opportunity and look forward to helping the command continue its growth and development. Contracting is a key enabler and extremely important to every single warfighting mission."

"At the same time, it is with a heavy heart that I depart ECC," he added. "The ECC team is in a great place with very talented and dedicated people. I know it will continue to succeed. I will not be far away and will continue to assist in ECC's success."

Before assuming command of ECC, Harrison was the deputy director, National Contracting Organization, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He entered the Army in 1980 as a distinguished military graduate through the ROTC program at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., and was commissioned in the Air Defense Artillery.

Harrison's successor has not been announced.

Senior Executive Service Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 10, 2013)

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced the following Department of Defense Senior Executive Service appointment and reassignment: Matthew Warren has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as deputy director, international armaments cooperation, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C. Warren previously served as a supervisory program analyst, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C.

Flag Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 12, 2013)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignments:

- Rear Adm. (lower half) Althea H. Coetzee, will be assigned as contingency contracting deputy director, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C. Coetzee is currently serving as executive director, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy (acquisition and procurement), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (research, development and acquisition), Washington, D.C.
- Rear Adm. (lower half) Paul A. Sohl, will be assigned as commander, Fleet Readiness Centers/assistant commander for logistics and industrial operations (AIR-6.0) Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md. Sohl is currently serving as commander, Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division/assistant commander for test and evaluation, Naval Air Systems Command (AIR-5.0), China Lake, Calif.
- Rear Adm. (lower half) Scott A. Stearney, will be assigned as commander, Strike Force Training Atlantic, Norfolk, Va. Stearney is currently serving as commander, Joint Enabling

Capabilities Command, U.S. Transportation Command, Norfolk, Va.

- Capt. Michael T. Moran, who has been selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as commander, Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division/assistant commander for test and evaluation, Naval Air Systems Command (AIR-5.0), China Lake, Calif. Moran is currently serving as military assistant, Office of the Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Washington, D.C.
- Capt. Paul J. Verrastro, who has been selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as executive director, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy (acquisition and procurement), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (research, development and acquisition), Washington, D.C. Verrastro is currently serving as commanding officer, Naval Supply Systems Command, Fleet Logistics Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 15, 2013)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Maj. Gen. Margaret W. Boor, U.S. Army Reserve, for assignment as commander (Troop Program Unit), 99th Regional Support Command, Fort Dix, N.J. She is currently serving as the deputy director for logistics operations, J-4 (individual mobilization augmentee), Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.
- Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army research, development and engineering command/senior commander, Natick Soldier Systems Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to program executive officer, command, control, and communications (tactical), Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
- Col. David W. Riggins, director, acquisition and integration division, office of the assistant secretary of the army (financial management and comptroller), Washington, D.C., to deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command/senior commander, Natick Soldier Systems Center, Natick, Mass.

General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 25, 2013)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Col. William E. Cole, who has been nominated for the rank of brigadier general, to chief of staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), Washington, D.C. He most recently served as director, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army

(Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) (Forward), Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan.

- Col. Richard B. Dix, who has been nominated for the rank of brigadier general, executive officer to the deputy chief of staff, G-4, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., to director for strategy and integration, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.
- Col. Jeffrey A. Farnsworth, who has been nominated for the rank of brigadier general, chief, space capabilities integration, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., to deputy commander (operations), U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.
- Col. John S. Kem, who has been selected for the rank of brigadier general, to commanding general, U.S. Army Engineer Division, Northwestern, Portland, Ore. He most recently served as chief, programs division, Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison, Washington, D.C.
- Col. Kurt J. Ryan, who has been nominated for the rank of brigadier general, military assistant to the assistant secretary of defense (logistics and materiel readiness), Washington, D.C., to commander, 593rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Joint Base Lewis McCord, Wash.

Obama Nominates James to Become Air Force Secretary

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (AUG. 2, 2013)

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama yesterday announced that Deborah Lee James is his choice to become the next Secretary of the Air Force.

“Deborah’s strong record of public service and leadership in the private sector makes her uniquely qualified to be my nominee for Secretary of the Air Force,” Obama said in a White House news release issued yesterday. “I look forward to working with her to keep our Air Force the very best in the world and to keep faith with our extraordinary Air Force personnel and their families.”

If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, James will succeed previous Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley, who served as Air Force’s top civilian for the past five years. Donley retired June 21 after 35 years of public service.

Eric Fanning, undersecretary of the Air Force, is serving as acting Air Force Secretary until Donley’s replacement is confirmed.

James is president of the technology and engineering sector at Science Applications International Corporation, a position



This May 7, 2013, photo provided by Science Applications International Corporation shows Deborah Lee James, president of the Technical and Engineering Sector at SAIC, in Virginia. President Barack Obama is nominating the former assistant defense secretary and House staffer as secretary of the Air Force. The White House said Thursday, Aug. 1, 2013, that James is Obama’s pick to replace Michael Donley, who retired in June. If confirmed by the Senate, she would be one of the few women to serve as the senior civilian leader of an armed services branch.

SAIC/Associated Press photo

she has held since 2013. From 2004 to 2013, she was the senior vice president of the C4IT Business Unit and then the executive vice president of communications and government affairs at SAIC.

From 2000 to 2001, James was the executive vice president and chief operating officer at Business Executives for National Security. From 1998 to 2000, she was the vice president with the international operations and marketing division at United Technologies. From 1993 to 1998, James served as the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs at the Department of Defense. She began her career in national security as a professional staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives on the House Armed Services Committee from 1983 to 1993.

James is currently a committee member of the Defense Department Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, an Advisory Board Member of the Women in Military Service Memorial Foundation’s Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Campaign, and an advisory board member of The Citadel School of Engineering. James received a B.A. from Duke University and an M.A. from Columbia University.